



Indiana Department of Education

SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS

March 23, 2010

Dear Superintendents and Principals:

The Indiana Department of Education maintains a file of emerging classroom leaders that consists of a cadre of distinguished teachers and principals. These educators are considered for membership on advisory boards and task forces, as well as candidates for special recognition programs. We ask for your recommendations to identify such educators, who are valuable to our community and state, and who may also ultimately receive prestigious recognition.

We are fortunate to have a rich base of veteran educators represented in our current talent pool who are vital resources in our state efforts and initiatives. We want to continue to build representation from Indiana educators relatively new to the profession who demonstrate extraordinary instructional and leadership ability. Such persons exhibit strong potential for professional leadership and inspiring presence that has an impact on students, colleagues, and community.

Who could you recommend this year as an elementary educator relatively new to the profession, dedicated to continuing in education, and distinguishable not only as Indiana's best, but the nation's best? Individuals submitted should be innovators, exceptional leaders and models for others, contributors to the educational environment beyond the classroom, and demonstrate their effectiveness through the achievement of their students. A minimum of five years in education is a must. Candidates must be building-level personnel, typically classroom teachers, but also administrators or specialists. **We have special interest in knowing of educators deemed as outstanding, but who have not received other significant or major recognition.**

Please identify one to three **elementary** educators (Grades K-6) that you would consider candidates. Please provide CONFIDENTIAL, succinct, and specific information about your candidates on the accompanying form. All questions must be answered, preferably typewritten. Please include a one-page narrative with the form that addresses how the candidate meets the criteria mentioned in this letter. **We ask that you keep this recommendation confidential and do not share it with the individual.** I urge you to take the time to recommend candidates from your district. If necessary, please assign this request to an associate. Complete information must be sent by May 14, 2010 to:

Sarah Fronczek
Indiana Department of Education
151 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Your cooperation and assistance are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Dr. Tony Bennett
Superintendent of Public Instruction